



#8
725/1/03

Docket No. 5000-4963

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Masakatsu MASAKI, et al. Group Art Unit : 1734
Serial No. : 09/982,035 Examiner : George R. Koch
Filed : October 17, 2002
For : WORKPIECE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHODS

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

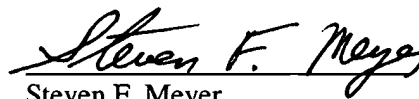
Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 26, 2003 constituting a requirement for restriction in the above-identified application, election is made to prosecute the claims in the Examiner's Group I, claims 1-18, 25-34 and 41. Claims 1-18, 25-34 and 41 are all readable on the elected Group I. The election is made without traverse.

Action on the merits of claims 1-18, 25-34 and 41 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

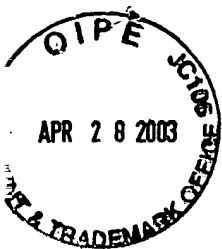
Dated: April 21, 2003



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

Sir:

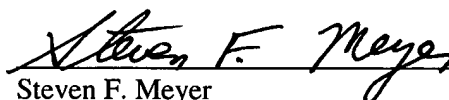
I hereby certify that the attached:

1. Response to Requirement for Restriction; and
2. Return receipt postcard

(along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed) and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 21, 2003


Steven F. Meyer
Registration No. 35,613

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